

September 12, 2006

=====

NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY

=====

Contact: Regional Public Affairs Officer David Lipsky

United States Army Corps of Engineers-North Atlantic Division

Phone (718) 765-7018

E-mail <mailto:david.lipsky@us.army.mil>

=====

ARMY ENGINEERS ANNOUNCE CHANGE OF COMMAND

=====

NEW YORK – Brig. Gen. Todd T. Semonite will assume command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-North Atlantic Division from Maj. Gen. William T. Grisoli during a formal change of command ceremony at 10 a.m. September 18 in the historic Fort Hamilton Community Club in Brooklyn, N.Y. Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, the Army's Chief of Engineers, will officiate.

WHO? Brig. Gen. Semonite is the current Commanding General of the Maneuver Support Center and Fort Leonard Wood. Maj. Gen. Grisoli will become the Army's Director of Program Analysis and Evaluation, G-8, at the Pentagon.

WHAT? Brig. Gen. Semonite will take command of the North Atlantic Division, which has district offices in Concord, MA (Boston area); New York; Philadelphia; Baltimore; Norfolk, Va.; and Germany. It is one of eight permanent U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regional Business Centers.

WHEN? 10 a.m., Monday, September 18, 2006 (News media representatives should call the Division's Public Affairs Officer at (718) 765-7018, if they plan to cover the event and arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. Monday)

WHERE? Fort Hamilton Community Club (Use Fort Hamilton Parkway entrance at 101st St. in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.)

WHY? A formal change of command is a military tradition dating back to Roman times. The ceremony emphasizes the continuity of leadership and unit identity, despite changes in individual leadership. It also symbolizes the transfer of command responsibility from one officer to another.

The USACE-North Atlantic Division builds and maintains facilities for the Army and Air Force in Europe, Greenland, parts of Africa and the Northeastern United States. It can move on short notice to support an Army operation anywhere in the world. It has a civil works mission that involves water resources work -- improving navigation channels on inland waterways, reducing flood and coastal storm damage and protecting or restoring the environment.

The five stateside districts maintain and improve navigation channels in the ports of Boston and New York, as well as harbors in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Norfolk. The civil works mission includes working with states and local communities to meet flood control and coastal needs. More information is available online at the Division's website: <http://www.nad.usace.army.mil>

END

BG TODD T. SEMONITE
INCOMING COMMANDER, NORTH ATLANTIC DIVISION, UNITED STATES
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Born and raised in Bellows Falls, Vermont, BG Todd Semonite was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1979.

His assignments include service as Company Executive Officer, Aide-de-Camp to the Deputy and Commanding General, Platoon Leader, and Assistant S3, 5th Engineer Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Adjutant, Company Commander, and S4, 94th Engineer Battalion, Darmstadt, Germany; Operations Officer for the Corps of Engineers Office, Fort Drum, New York; S4, 937th Engineer Group, Fort Riley, Kansas; S3 and Executive Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion, Fort Riley, Kansas; Construction and Design Supervisor, 416th ENCOM, Chicago, Illinois; Battalion Commander, 23rd Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Division, Friedberg, Germany, with a deployment to Bosnia's Posavina Corridor from December 1995 to December 1996; Chief of Military Engineering and Topography, USAREUR-DCSENGR; and Chief of International Operations, DCSOPS-USAREUR. From 2000 to 2002 BG Semonite served as Commander of the 130th Engineer Brigade and the V Corps Engineer in Hanau, Germany. Following Brigade Command, BG Semonite served one year as Executive Officer to the Commanding General, USAREUR and 7th Army. From September 2003 to March 2004 he deployed to Iraq as the Deputy Commander of Task Force Restore Iraqi Electricity (RIE), responsible for designing and executing a \$1.1 billion reconstruction effort. Upon return BG Semonite served for one year as Director, Office of the Chief of Engineers, HQDA, at the Pentagon. He assumed responsibility as the Assistant Commandant of the United States Army Engineer School on 25 May 2005, and became the Commanding General of the Maneuver Support Center and Fort Leonard Wood in August of 2006.

BG Semonite is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the United States Military Academy, a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Vermont, and a Masters of

Military Arts and Sciences from Fort Leavenworth. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Virginia and Vermont.

BG Semonite's awards include the Legion of Merit (4 Awards), Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (7 Awards), Army Commendation Medal (3 Awards), Army Achievement Medal, Army Superior Unit Award (2 Awards), NATO award, Ranger tab, and Parachutist Badge.

A command portrait of BG Semonite is available at:
<http://www.nad.usace.army.mil/image/semonite.jpg>